

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

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C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 01393

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV EG IS
SUBJECT: RABBI SCHINDLER

REF: CAIRO 948

1. RABBI SCHINDLER DEPARTED TODAY FOR JERUSALEM AFTER THREE DAY VISIT. I BELIEVE HE FOUND IT USEFUL.
2. I ARRANGED THAT HE, MRS. SCHINDLER AND MR. YEHUDA HELLMAN FLY TO ASWAN, JANUARY 11, FOR MEETING WITH SADAT. WE FLEW UP WITH VP MUBARAK, WHICH GAVE SCHINDLER OPPORTUNITY TO EXCHANGE VIEWS WITH VP AND SADAT'S FRIEND, FORMER MINISTER OSMAN AHMED OSMAN, WHO WAS ALSO ON THE AIRCRAFT.
3. I WAS NOT PRESENT AT THE MEETING WITH SADAT AND MRS. SADAT, BUT RABBI SCHINDLER LATER TOLD ME THAT THE PRESIDENT HAD SOUGHT SIGNAL THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMUNITY OF THE SINCERITY OF HIS DESIRE FOR PEACE. ON HIS PART, SCHINDLER COUNSELED PATIENCE AND SAID BEGIN NEEDS TIME TO BE ABLE TO PERSUADE ISRAELI PUBLIC ACCEPT CONCESSIONS. MEANWHILE, THE LESS SAID PUBLICLY BY ALL SIDES, THE BETTER.

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4. FOLLOWING MEETING WITH SADAT, SCHINDLER GAVE BRIEF PRESS CONFERENCE TO ASSEMBLED NEWSMEN. HE DESCRIBED SADAT AS "REMARKABLE, FARSIGHTED, IMAGINATIVE MAN DEDICATED TO HIS WORK." SAID HE EXPLAINED TO SADAT ATTITUDE OF AMERICAN JEWRY, REASONS FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF ISRAEL; AND IMPORTANCE THEY ATTACH TO ISRAELI SECURITY. ADDED HE HAD CONVEYED TO SADAT HIS APPRECIATION, AND THAT

OF AMERICAN JEWS, FOR SADAT'S INITIATIVE AND THEIR HOPE THAT PEACE WILL BE ESTABLISHED IN REGION. ASKED WHETHER SADAT ABLE PROVIDE PLAN WHICH WILL GIVE ISRAELI SECURITY, SCHINDLER SAID HE "HOPED SO." HE THOUGHT ATTITUDE OF BOTH SADAT AND BEGIN TOWARD PEACE WILL LEAD TO SOMETHING. NEVERTHELESS, HE NOTED, SECURITY QUESTION INVOLVES MORE THAN PERSONAL RELATIONS; IT REPRESENTS "NATIONAL INTERESTS OF BOTH COUNTRIES."

5. ASKED WHETHER ISRAELI SECURITY IS ALL JEWISH COMMUNITY IN US CARES ABOUT, SCHINDLER SAID THIS IS THE COMMUNITY'S MAIN CONCERN. HOWEVER, AMERICAN JEWISH COMMUNITY ALSO CARES ABOUT ARAB SECURITY AND SAID "NO JEW OR ISRAELI -- EXCEPT MADMEN -- WILL ACCEPT POLICY OF EXPANSION." HE POINTED OUT VIEWS OF AMERICAN JEWISH COMMUNITY NOT ALWAYS IDENTICAL WITH ISRAELI VIEWPOINTS. ON SETTLEMENTS, SCHINDLER THOUGHT THIS COULD "BE SOLVED VERY EASILY" AND URGED PATIENCE UNTIL COMMITTEES MEET TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS. SAID HE HAD NOT DISCUSSED PALESTINIAN PROBLEM IN DETAIL WITH SADAT, BUT NOTED IT CANNOT BE IGNORED AND SOLUTION SHOULD BE FOUND. ON INDEPENDENT PALESTINIAN STATE, SCHINDLER SHARES COMMON VIEW THAT SUCH A STATE AT LEAST FOR TIME BEING, WILL ENDANGER PEACE.

6. YESTERDAY SCHINDLER MET FOR ABOUT AN HOUR WITH MINSTATE BOUTROS GHALI. HE WAS NOT OVERLY IMPRESSED WITH
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GHALI AND VIEWED HIM AS RIGID ACADEMIC.

7. LAST EVENING HE HAD TWO HOUR SESSION WITH PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY SPEAKER, SAYED MAREI, WHICH HE ENJOYED GREATLY. HE FOUND MAREI DECISIVE AND PRAGMATIC. HE BELIEVES IT MIGHT BE USEFUL IF MEETING BETWEEN DAYAN AND MAREI COULD AT SOME POINT BE ARRANGED. HE FELT THAT IN ACCORDANCE WITH PRECEDENT BEING SET IN POLITICAL COMMITTEE WHICH WILL BE ATTENDED BY WEIZMAN, DAYAN MIGHT ATTEND NEXT MILITARY SESSION IN CAIRO. THIS WOULD AFFORD OPPORTUNITY FOR MAREI/DAYAN MEETING.

8. BEFORE LEAVING RABBI SCHINDLER EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR ASSISTANCE RENDERED HIM IN ARRANGING ABOVE APPOINTMENTS. EILTS

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